REMARKS

The Office action of December 16, 2003 has been received and its contents carefully noted.

Claims 1-2, and 4-5 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended.

Claims 1-2, and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Nagy (U.S. Patent No. 5,943,058). Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagy in view of Edge et al. ("Edge") (U.S. Patent No. 6,362,808 B1). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, and request allowance thereof in the continuation prosecution application for the following reasons.

The Claims are Patentable Over the Cited References

Claims 1-2, and 4 are not anticipated by Nagy

Claims 1-2, and 4 stand rejected under § 102(e) in view of Nagy. Applicants strongly contend that Nagy fails to disclose the features recited in these claims as amended such as a lookup table of color characteristic data, associated with color characteristic of an input device inputting said supplied image, wherein said lookup table is composed of only characteristic points which indicate the relationship between supplied image signals and output image signals which are determined to be impossible to be developed

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in a table development process which is performed when said lookup table is developed into a multidimensional lookup table.

Nagy does not disclose this patentably distinct feature of a lookup table of color characteristic data associated with color characteristic of an input device inputting a supplied image. In contrast, Nagy solely discloses a texture mapping circuit (to add texture to a graphic object for adding realism) for translating input pixel color components to corresponding texture coordinates for laying an image onto an object. (see FIGs. 1-2; Abstract; col. 1, lines 55-67; col. 2, lines 1-5).

Specifically, Nagy states that "...a texture mapping circuit is disclosed which produces output values corresponding to pixels of an input image...includes a coordinate translation circuit for performing coordinate translation from input pixel components to corresponding texture coordinates...represents a texture address...uses the texture address and the set of interpolation factors to produce an output value...the output value represents a multidimensional lookup of the color components interpolated into multidimensional space." (see FIGs. 1-2; col. 1, lines 55-67; col. 2, lines 1-5).

Therefore, Nagy is taking an input image, determining the color components of the input image, generating interpolation factors from the input color components (generating a multidimensional lookup table), and then generating an output value to produce the textured object. Thus, instead of using a lookup

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table of color characteristic data associated with color characteristic of an input device inputting said supplied image as recited, Nagy uses the input color components from the input image itself (not the color characteristic of an input device) to generate a multidimensional lookup table and texture translation.

Applicants strongly contend that color characteristic data associated with color characteristic of an input device incorporating a lookup table is significantly different (separate) from input color components from an input image to generate a lookup table since Nagy is not taking in account the input device color characteristic as recited. Furthermore, the recited feature is using color characteristic data for converting the supplied image into output image data which is significantly different from Nagy using the input image color components to convert (translate) the input image data into a textured object.

Therefore, Nagy does not disclose a lookup table of color characteristic data associated with color characteristic of an input device inputting a supplied image as recited making the claimed invention patentably distinct and non-obvious from the cited reference.

Claim 5 is not made obvious by Nagy and Edge

Claim 5 stands rejected under § 103(a) in view of Nagy and Edge. Applicants strongly contend that Nagy and Edge, either alone

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or in combination, fail to disclose the features recited in these claims as amended such as a lookup table of color characteristic data, associated with color characteristic of an input device inputting said supplied image, wherein said lookup table is composed of only characteristic points which indicate the relationship between supplied image signals and output image signals which are determined to be impossible to be developed in a table development process which is performed when said lookup table is developed into a multidimensional lookup table.

As contended above, Nagy fails to disclose this recited feature as instead Nagy discloses using input color components of an input image to generate a lookup table and output values. Further, Edge solely discloses a color mapping method which makes no mention of a lookup table of color characteristic data associated with color characteristic of an input device inputting said supplied image, or wherein the color characteristic data includes an identifier identifying a table development method as recited.

Therefore, Nagy and Edge fail to disclose a lookup table of color characteristic data associated with color characteristic of an input device inputting a supplied image as recited making the claimed invention patentably distinct and non-obvious from the cited references.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the remaining claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant(s) respectfully petition(s) for a one (1) month extension of time for filing a reply in connection with the present application, and the required fee of $110.00 is attached hereto.
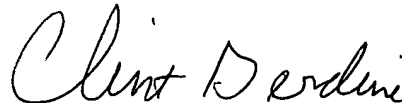
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 to discuss the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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